

1-22-1999

The UCF Report, Vol. 21 No. 13, January 22, 1999

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Recommended Citation

University of Central Florida, "The UCF Report, Vol. 21 No. 13, January 22, 1999" (1999). *The UCF Report*. 583.
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UCF Report

Volume 21 • No. 13 • Jan. 22, 1999

A publication for faculty and staff

World's eyes turn to new School of Optics

3 Nobel laureates among attendees at optics school's inaugural conference

Perhaps the world's eyes have never been so focused on UCF as they were last week when three Nobel laureates and a dozen other top researchers in optical sciences helped celebrate the arrival of UCF's School of Optics.

About 300 scientists and educators attended the school's inaugural conference, held at UCF on Jan. 11 and 12. The conference marked the maturation of UCF's 12-year-old optics program.

M.J. Soileau, interim vice president for Sponsored Research, began establishing the program from a trailer when he arrived at UCF a dozen years ago. From that humble beginning, the Center for Research and Education in Optics and Lasers — better known simply as CREOL — moved to

Research Park and then into its own \$9.7 million on-campus building three years ago. In September, it was upgraded to the School of Optics and is now one of just three comprehensive optics programs in the nation. CREOL, with about \$7 million in annual research grants, remains part of the school.

"We embraced the mission, refined it a bit and stayed the course," Soileau reflected on the history

Please see OPTICS, page 2



Jacque Brund

Sound of music

Music professors Nora Lee Garcia (flute), Keith Koons (clarinet) and Eladio Scharron (guitar) perform during a faculty chamber concert on Tuesday, Jan. 19. Not pictured are fellow performers Gary Wolf (piano) and JoAnne Stephenson (voice).

Anti-abortion group to exercise right of free speech on campus

UCF states position on appearance of Kansas-based unit

The Center for Bio-Ethical Reform, a Kansas-based organization with a self-described mission of promoting "the

humanity of the unborn child and the inhumanity of abortion," will conduct "educational presentations" next week, the week of Jan. 25, on the "free speech green" near the Library.

Organized as Students for Bio-Ethical Reform for the UCF event, the group will erect displays, distribute literature and engage in discussion

with passers-by who stop to talk, according to the group's general counsel, James Spencer.

Following is UCF's position on the event, which university officials believe could spark controversy and

Please see
FREE SPEECH, page 2

Longtime IST boss resigns

A. Louis Medin will continue serving UCF until his planned retirement in 2000

Dr. A. Louis Medin, recognized for developing UCF's Institute for Simulation and Training into one of the nation's foremost research centers in that field, will step down as the unit's executive director on Feb. 12.

Medin's departure from IST will permit him to devote more of his time to other important national issues. Medin has been extensively involved in

attempting to bolster the Department of Defense's budget in research and development. In his new UCF assignment, he will be working more closely with the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation, the National Defense Industrial Agency and other national and international organizations. Until his retirement from the university on Feb. 12, 2000, Medin also will serve as a consultant on simulation issues to



Medin

Please see MEDIN, page 7

Jan.

Next issue of The UCF Report is Feb. 5 • Deadline is noon, Jan. 27

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Memo

To: Faculty

From: Gary Whitehouse, Academic Affairs

Subject: Final exam schedule

I would like to remind you of Faculty Senate Resolution 1991/1992-3, which President Hitt and I strongly support. The resolution reads:

It is normally expected that a final examination be given in each course that is taught. Recognizing that there are courses where a final exam per se may be less appropriate, an alternative final assessment may be used. Faculty should provide an explanation of their assessment in course syllabi. Regardless of the type of mechanism employed, it is the expectation that each faculty member will meet with his or her class for the scheduled number of sessions as published in the university calendar and semester schedule, including the final examination period.

Faculty who do not plan to have a final exam during the final exam week are asked to obtain approval from their chairs. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

To: University community

From: Dan Holsenbeck, University Relations

Subject: Graphic standards workshop

In 1995, the university adopted formal guidelines for use of the four universitywide symbols. They are the stand-alone Pegasus, monogram, wordmark and seal. Since that time, hundreds of new faculty and staff have been hired and the guidelines have been revised. For those reasons, the Division of University Relations will conduct a graphic standards workshop on Tuesday, Jan. 26, in the Student Union Cape Florida Ballroom, 2-4 p.m.

It is highly recommended that all university departments and organizations send a representative. Copies of the revised Graphic Standards Manual will be distributed during the workshop and refreshments will be served.

Please R.S.V.P. to Sheila Anderson by Jan. 20. She can be reached by phone at 823-2504, fax at 823-3403 or e-mail at smanders@mail.ucf.edu.

To: Faculty and staff

From: Beth Liberto, General Counsel

Subject: Use of Social Security numbers as student ID.

The purpose of this memo is to address when UCF legally can require students to provide their Social Security numbers and/or use such numbers for identification purposes.

The starting point for discussing this issue is the federal Privacy Act of 1974. Section 7 of that act provides:

(a)(1) It shall be unlawful for any federal, state or local government agency to deny any individual any right,

benefit or privilege provided by law because of such individual's refusal to disclose his Social Security account number.

(b) Any federal, state or local agency which requests an individual to disclose his Social Security account number shall inform that individual whether that disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, by what statutory or other authority such number is solicited, and what uses shall be made of it.

Historical Note, 5 U.S.C.A. Section 552a.

The statute clearly indicates that the occasions when a governmental entity may demand an individual's Social Security number are severely limited. There is no statutory provision that allows Social Security numbers to be used as routine identifiers. Thus, professors may not use students' Social Security numbers or parts thereof to post grades or list such numbers on a grading sheet or attendance chart. Failure to comply with this statute may result in legal sanctions.

To: Faculty

From: Gary Whitehouse, Academic Affairs

Subject: Faculty Leadership Awards

I am pleased to announce the third annual Faculty Leadership Awards to recognize faculty for their leadership at UCF and in the community. One faculty member will be selected from each college with the exception of Arts and Sciences from which two faculty members will be honored. This additional award was instituted due to the high number of faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences. Faculty Leadership Award winners will be recognized during Leadership Week 1999, Feb. 8-11. This week of activities is being hosted by the LEAD Scholars Program along with the Office of Student Activities, Student Government Association, Alumni Relations Office and the Faculty Senate.

You may nominate yourself or a colleague for the award by completing a faculty nomination form, elaborating on the stated criteria, and returning it to Dick Tucker, Psychology Department, PH 302, no later than Wednesday, Jan. 27. A committee comprised of the recipients of last year's awards will evaluate the nominees on their demonstration of the five stated criteria.

Leadership Week was created to recognize and reward faculty, students, staff and alumni. The Faculty Leadership Awards will be presented at a Leadership Award Ceremony on Feb. 11, 2-3 p.m. Information about the recipients of this award will be showcased in a Library display during Leadership Week.

I hope you will help celebrate leadership at UCF by completing and returning a nomination form. If you have any questions about the award, please contact Dick Tucker at 823-2566 or rtucker@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu; if you have any questions about Leadership Week, please contact Shannon Bergman, LEAD Scholars Program, at 823-3949.

As far as mascots, Knightro is king of hill

In collegiate sports, mascots are big. Go to a UCF game and you'll find Knightro running the sidelines, cheering and getting the crowd pumped?

Knightro embodies what UCF athletics is all about. He's tough, athletic and proud to be a Golden Knight. However, this begs the question, what if we didn't have Knightro?

In the past, UCF tried many different mascots, from the Citronaut (a piece of fruit with

From the ivory tower

legs, arms and a head) to Mack the Knight (a scrawny, little guy who looked a lot like the Martian who is tormented by Bugs Bunny).

All failed miserably. But why? I've definitely seen worse mascots that have remained

fixtures at their schools

Could anyone actually say that Syracuse's Otto the Orange is an inspiration or a mascot to be proud of? Seeing that big orange with blue arms and legs (bearing a striking resemblance to the FTU Citronaut) dancing around reminds me more of a "Sesame Street" character than a major college mascot. Perhaps Leroy the Lemon and Billy the Banana had already been adopted by local high schools.

Stanford is no better. That school boasts the Cardinal, a big, ugly tree that dances, looking very spastic on the basketball court at halftime. What makes this twice as strange is that students campaign each year to be the Tree. Candidates make T-shirts, start Web sites, hang banners and, yes, even wrestle pigs to be chosen. The winner is chosen based on the best stunts and hardest work. Chris Henderson is this year's Stanford Tree, and I congratulate him because after looking at his Web site, I was convinced that being the ugliest, most-ridiculed mascot in collegiate athletics has been a dream of his for some time now.

When it comes to school nicknames, some may question UCF's choice of the Golden Knights. It is true that the name Golden Knights — unlike the Seminoles, Gators and Hurricanes — has basically nothing to do with the state of Florida. But we can take pride in what our name stands for. Golden Knights are a far better team name than, say, the Green Wave of Tulane or the Camels of Campbell University.

Scottsdale (Arizona) Community College has an interesting team name. The Scottsdale Fighting Artichoke. Students chose the name in protest of the school administration's unwillingness to give students a say in school policies. School officials fought to have the name revoked, but student support for it was so great the name stuck, much to the chagrin of administrators.

The University of California at Santa Cruz Banana Slugs are another team in need of a new name. Or are they? It seems that the school has gained widespread popularity due to its unusual mascot. The Slugs' T-shirt has been seen on no other than actor John Travolta in the movie "Pulp Fiction." It seems that director Quentin

Please see MASCOTS, page 3

OPTICS, continued from page 1

of the endeavor. "We would still be in a doublewide trailer had we not been good stewards of funds provided for us."

Opening the conference, President John Hitt said it was a thrill to gain approval for the school, which is equaled only at the University of Rochester in New York and the University of Arizona. He added that the conference was also a "celebration of the wonders and magic of light."

Nobel laureates Steven Chu of Stanford



Townes



Bloembergen



Chu

University and Charles Townes of the University of California at Berkeley were each featured speakers. Nicolaas Bloembergen, a Nobel laureate and Harvard University professor emeritus, was the general program chair.

Fittingly, Bloembergen, in his address, noted that the future of nonlinear science is especially difficult to predict. However, one can argue that no crystal ball is needed to see a shining future for the School of Optics/CREOL.

— Susan Loden

FREE SPEECH, continued from page 1

media attention:

"While the University of Central Florida neither endorses nor opposes the anti-abortion message of the Students for Bio-Ethical Reform, UCF defends the organization's constitutionally protected right to present its views on campus in the same manner other non-university groups are permitted to express controversial viewpoints and opinions here.

"The unfettered expression of views, including

controversial and offensive ones, is a bedrock value of institutions of higher learning. Furthermore, the U.S. Constitution recognizes the importance of free inquiry to a free society by protecting speech from censorship and restraint.

"As with any expression of controversial views on campus, the university expects that they will be presented with civility and received in the same spirit by the UCF community."

— Dean McFall

Short Takes

Free passes await campus employees

All UCF faculty and staff can receive a free "TwoPass," good for 12 months of unlimited visits to Silver Springs and Wild Waters. The "TwoPass" will also be accepted for free admission to the Silver Springs country concert series, which features top-name entertainers. UCF employees will also receive a special price on the purchase of a "TwoPass" for friends and family (limit 6) at a cost of \$29.95 plus tax for each pass. Purchases made prior to Jan. 31 will receive an additional \$5 discount. The passes can be picked up in front of the campus Bookstore through Feb. 12 or at the Silver Springs guest relations booth through Feb. 17. A UCF identification card is required.

UCF employees race to beat cancer

A kick-off breakfast will be hosted by President John Hitt to prepare the university community for the Relay For Life, an American Cancer Society annual fund-raiser. It will be in the Student Union Key West Ballroom on Thursday, Jan. 28, 8-9 a.m. Each department is asked to send a representative. The race itself is March 26 and 27. The Relay For Life involves teams of runners and walkers who for 18 hours complete laps around the UCF track. While the relay is in progress, team members camp and enjoy entertainment, food, games, contests and the camaraderie of a community-party atmosphere. To attend the kick-off breakfast or for other information, call Karen Breakell, director of Constituent Relations, at 823-6490.

Ignore holiday date listed in catalog

Come May you will want to ignore the date for Memorial Day listed in the Undergraduate Catalog. Memorial Day, a universitywide holiday, is listed on page 10 of the catalog as May 24; it's May 31.

Upcoming holiday

The long dry spell is here. The next universitywide holiday isn't until Memorial Day, May 31.

This issue

This issue of *The UCF Report* is for the weeks of Jan. 22-28 and Jan. 29-Feb. 4. It is the 13th issue of fiscal year 1998-99. *The UCF Report* is published 23 times a year (every other week in the fall and spring, and every third week in the summer).

The UCF Report

The UCF Report is a publication of the Office of Public Relations, Division of University Relations, University of Central Florida, P.O. Box 160090, Orlando, FL 32816-0090, (407) 823-2504. Publication of announcements and official memoranda about university policy and procedures in *The UCF Report* constitutes official notice to faculty and staff.

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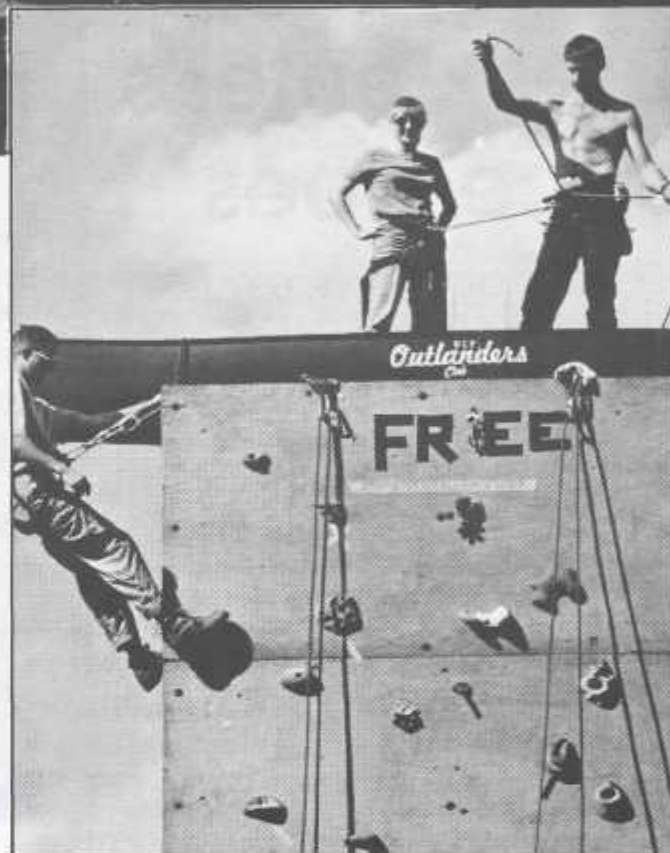
Anthony Felix, student assistant



Jacque Brund

Lofty perch

Patricia Macchia of UCF's Outlanders club relaxes in a canoe perched atop a climbing wall near the Student Union, above. At right is another view of Macchia and friends, the canoe and tower. The display was part of the Outlanders club's attempt to recruit fellow students on Jan. 12.



MASCOTS, continued from page 2

Tarentino had a girlfriend who was a student at the school, and he picked up the shirt specifically for his movie. Neither Tarentino nor Travolta could be reached for comment, but the T-shirts are selling like hotcakes.

As far as team names and mascots go, it's not always the best name or mascot that will become the most popular. Fans will always take to the teams that do the best on the field, not the teams with the best mascots. At least now you can take

solace in the fact that the UCF Golden Knights, led by Knightro, are hardly an embarrassment when you compare it to some of the other schools out there.

I myself know what it's like to attend a school with a bad mascot. My high school mascot was the Bellringer, a little man in a sailor suit ringing a bell. So Knightro is a big improvement for me.

— Paul Wilson

(Paul is a student assistant in the Public Relations Office)

A few of our favorite, um, things

School	Mascot	Mascot's name	Our Comment
Alaska-Fairbanks	Nanooks	The Nanook	What do you expect from a school located where the temperature regularly drops to 40 degrees below zero?
Calgary	Dinosaurs	Dino	Should have stayed extinct.
Delaware	Fightin' Blue Hens	YoUDee	Never has a mascot's name fit so perfectly.
Maryland	Terrapins	Testudo	A turtle — no wonder their football team stinks.
Minnesota	Golden Gophers	Goldie	A small, furry beast. Oh, yeah, we're scared.
North Carolina	Tar Heels	Rameses	Huh?
Oregon	Ducks	The Duck	Quack, quack.
Purdue	Boilermakers	Purdue Pete	Name's original, but Pete looks a little like Jay Leno.
Southern Illinois	Salukis	Dawg	Perhaps the ugliest dog on earth; it's even uglier as a mascot.
Texas Christian	Horned Frogs	Superfrog	Ha, ha, ha, ha.
Vermont	Catamounts	Charlie and Kitty	Excuse us, but aren't catamounts wild cats? Charlie and Kitty look like pampered pets.
Virginia Tech	Hokies	The Hokie Bird	Is that the best they could do?
Webster	Gorlocks	The Gorlock	Named by combining names of town's two main streets; it's part cheetah, part buffalo, part Saint Bernard, all ugly.
Wichita State	Shockers	WuShock	Yikes! Looks like a troll in a grass hula skirt with wheat stalks sticking out of his hair.

Regents OK renaming buildings after presidents

Plan is Administration, Humanities buildings will be named after Millican, Colbourn

President John Hitt's request to the Board of Regents to name two main campus buildings after two former UCF presidents was approved at the BOR meeting last week at the University of Florida. The Administration Building will be renamed "Millican Hall" after the university's founding president Charles Millican and the Humanities and Fine Arts

Building will be renamed "Colbourn Hall" after Millican's successor, Trevor Colbourn.

The new names would recognize the two men who played major roles in the development of the university.

Approval from the Legislature is pending. A bill that will cover all of the State University System will allow for the renaming of buildings for people still living.

Millican served as president from



Millican



Colbourn

1963 to 1978, and has devoted more than 35 years of service to UCF. He laid the foundation for the university with its circular master plan, its logo and many other major features

that remain today. After stepping down as president, Millican served as a professor of finance in the College of Business Administration until 1981. He currently acts as a special assistant to the UCF Foundation president, solidifying numerous major gifts to

the university, including donations for the president's home, the Robinson Observatory and scholarship funds.

Trevor Colbourn served as president from 1978 to 1989, overseeing enrollment that doubled to 20,000 and the inauguration of the university's first doctoral programs. He also established the College of Arts and Sciences, the Undergraduate Studies Office and the Honors Program. The Central Florida Research Park, rated as one of the top 10 university-related parks in the country, was established during his tenure.

— Joanne Griggs

Renovation cures center's space woes

Student Health Services' size increases from 9,000 to 15,000 square feet

For a health center that had more doctors than examining rooms, expansion was a must. With that in mind, the Student Health Services building has been expanded and renovated.

The \$420,000 expansion and \$350,000 renovation includes seven more exam rooms for a total of 13 and grew in space from 9,000 to 15,000 square feet. Work included attaching the old building to its neighboring Wellness Center.

Additions include a women's clinic with three exam rooms, a greatly enlarged pharmacy, two infirmaries for daytime use and expanded offices. Exam rooms have been modernized and X-ray equipment upgraded. The center has a small surgical room for minor procedures, an immunization department, a lab with affiliation to an outside company for easier testing and a pharmacy with an over-the-counter selection.

"We now have the third largest student health services building in the state system," director Bob Faust says. "We've wanted to offer more services; now we can. We can have an orthopedic surgeon, a physical therapist and a psychiatrist."

To make space for the expanded Student Health Services, the Wellness Center, now called the Health Resource Center, was moved to a modular



Music student Sue Chau performs during an open house for the newly renovated Student Health Services building on Jan. 14.

unit near CREOL. Student Health Services had been located in its original building since February 1981.

Although the space jam for Student Health Services is over for now, Faust knows that more elbow room will be needed in about five years. The center, which employs 50 full-time staff members and 50 part-time, handles 51,000 visits each year. That figure will surely increase.

"With the projected student growth, we know

we'll need something bigger. We're already studying what we'll need in the future; plus, we want the Health Resource Center back with us," he says.

Another goal, he says, is adding services for staff and faculty. UCF employees can already get massages and take part in a biofeedback program. Expanded on-campus health services would benefit workers and the university by improving employee productivity, Faust believes.

— Joanne Griggs

Students publish newspaper — sans paper

Ron Smith's journalism class puts electronic publication on Net

The newspaper students produce in Ron Smith's journalism class won't be found on news racks in even the largest of the super-size book stores. And don't bother looking for it in your mailbox, on your doorstep, in your bushes or under your car.

If you want to read *UCF Knight Wire*, UCF's first electronic student-written newspaper, you'll need access to the Internet.

Three years ago, Smith was considering starting a student-produced magazine. "But there wasn't enough money," he says. So he turned to the less-expensive, more-hip alternative of an electronic publication.

"The positives are so high. It doesn't cost as much [as print

publications] and students can write at length," he says. Unlimited space makes it possible for a large number of students to publish articles — a necessity for getting a job in the publishing field. And the readership potential is almost unlimited.

"We've gotten e-mail from all around the country, some from alumni asking why we didn't do an electronic magazine when they were at UCF," Smith says.

That's not to say it was always well received by the student journalists putting the electronic publication together. "It was a royal mess [during early attempts]; it never worked," says senior communication major Jeff Case, describing his first experience as the sports editor for *UCF Knight Wire*.

Initial problems were solved, however, when students learned software programs and the art of linking Web documents. "You learn

how easy it is to update. You can see why so many publications are on the Internet," Case says.

James Combs, another senior preparing for a job in the news business, also discovered that producing an electronic magazine can be fun — once computers are conquered.

"I had never even used e-mail before. I was totally computer illiterate. So, of course, I learned a whole lot about computers. But the most challenging part of the project was the organization, or, really, the lack of organization," Comb says.

Senior Todd McHale, who works for the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*, joined the *UCF Knight Wire* staff to spiff up his resume. "But once I got started in the class, I found I was learning a lot."

The publication provides features on UCF faculty, students and alumni. A sampling of articles are a story chronicling a student's skydiving

ventures; another telling of a rock band looking for stardom — along with audio clips of their songs; others offering advice about campus life or adventurous outings.

This year, Smith plans for the class of 10 news/editorial majors to produce 10 editions with a different editor for each edition. "Last year, we did mostly feature stories, but we have a lot of newspaper students in the class this term, so we'll do more news stories," he says. "It's going to be a scramble."

Veterans of Smith's class will be ready again this term to guide the rest of the class, even though they can't help but wince at the long hours and hard work that awaits.

"There are no excuses not to get your articles published now," student Case says.

Check out *UCF Knight Wire* at <http://www.cas.ucf.edu/paper>.

— Joanne Griggs

Building's vital signs look strong

Faculty, staff might be able to move into Health and Public Affairs Building soon

After eight years of planning, construction and anticipation, faculty and students in the College of Health and Public Affairs will soon have a building of their own.

Faculty and support staff are expected to begin moving into the first of two buildings dedicated to the sole use of the college sometime after spring break. The hope is to start offering classes in the building this summer to the almost 6,000 students in the college.

"We're the last of the [university's] five colleges to have [its own building]," says Robert Gennaro, chair for the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Biology and a member of the college's building committee. "This is a fantastic event in our college's history."

The \$15 million, 94,000-square-foot building, east of the Student Union, will feature state-of-the-art classrooms and labs, a 180-seat auditorium and offices for administrators, faculty and staff.

While waiting for a home of their own, the college's departments have been scattered throughout campus. The new building will bring together all but Communicative Disorders in Research Park and Radiological Sciences in the renamed Mathematics and Physics Building — formerly the Health and Physics Building. Plans are

for Radiological Services and Communicative Disorders offices to move into a future second Health and Public Affairs Building; Communicative Disorders labs will remain in Research Park.

The second building will be next to the first. An architect for the building should be chosen early this year. Construction is expected to begin next fall

and should last about 14 months, says UCF architect Tom Woodruff.

The second building will be almost 61,904 square feet and is expected to cost \$8.5 million. The two buildings might be linked by a second-story bridge, Woodruff says.

— Susan Loden



The new Health and Public Affairs Building is expected to be finished this spring.

Most students give UCF thumbs up

Spring 1998 survey shows majority of students satisfied with college experience

What do UCF students think of their college experience? About 2,200 students on the main campus as well as the Brevard and Daytona Beach campuses, for the most part, give UCF a thumbs up.

In responding to a spring 1998 Student Satisfaction Inventory survey and a UCF supplemental questionnaire, students rated the importance of and their satisfaction with 108 university-related topics. The survey gives administrators insight into student concerns and areas and programs that need improvement, says Sabrina Andrews, assistant director for Institutional Research and Planning Support.

In the overall satisfaction category, 75.8 percent of the respondents said they were "well satisfied" with their UCF experience and 75 percent say they would probably re-enroll if they

had it to do over. Fewer than 15 percent expressed overall dissatisfaction. The SSI survey indicates that UCF students are "significantly" more satisfied than students surveyed at other four-year public universities.

More than 90 percent of the participants gave most favorable ratings to campus maintenance, safety and security, the knowledgeable faculty and students' ability to experience intellectual growth here. Students on the Brevard and, especially, Daytona Beach campuses, expressed greater satisfaction in most areas than did students on the main campus.

In comparing the 1998 SSI to UCF's first, conducted in 1995, Andrews says UCF has met its goal to improve student satisfaction in every category. The SSI rates topics on a scale from one (the poorest ranking) to seven (the best).

Ranking high on the "somewhat dissatisfied" side was student parking, with 61 percent unhappy. However, Andrews says that percentage is misleading, since it is really a low rate of parking gripes when compared to those from students at other universities. Though a 3.6 mean on the satis-

faction scale for parking was the university's lowest rating in any category, peer universities earned a collective mean satisfaction rate of just 2.9 for parking. The addition of two 1,300-space parking garages in 1998, and two more in the plan, should help quell complaints and increase UCF's lead in parking-related satisfaction, school officials believe.

Other poor scores were: 53 percent of UCF survey participants say they get the "run around" when seeking information on campus; 41 percent have problems registering for needed classes; between 35 and 40 percent have conflict over timely announcements of financial aid awards, the helpfulness of financial aid counselors and an inadequate availability of financial aid; 30 percent say counseling staff members do not care about students as individuals; and, 29 percent say the university as a whole fails to show satisfactory concern for students.

"Some of these percentages may seem high, but nationally, we're still doing better" than other universities, Andrews says. "You can't really please everyone. While some percentages look high, look at what

we've done in the last two years" to increase measurable satisfaction.

The most significant downside? UCF students gave their academic advising a mean score of only 4.82 on the seven-point satisfaction scale, while other institutions' students give their advisers a combined mean rating of 5.

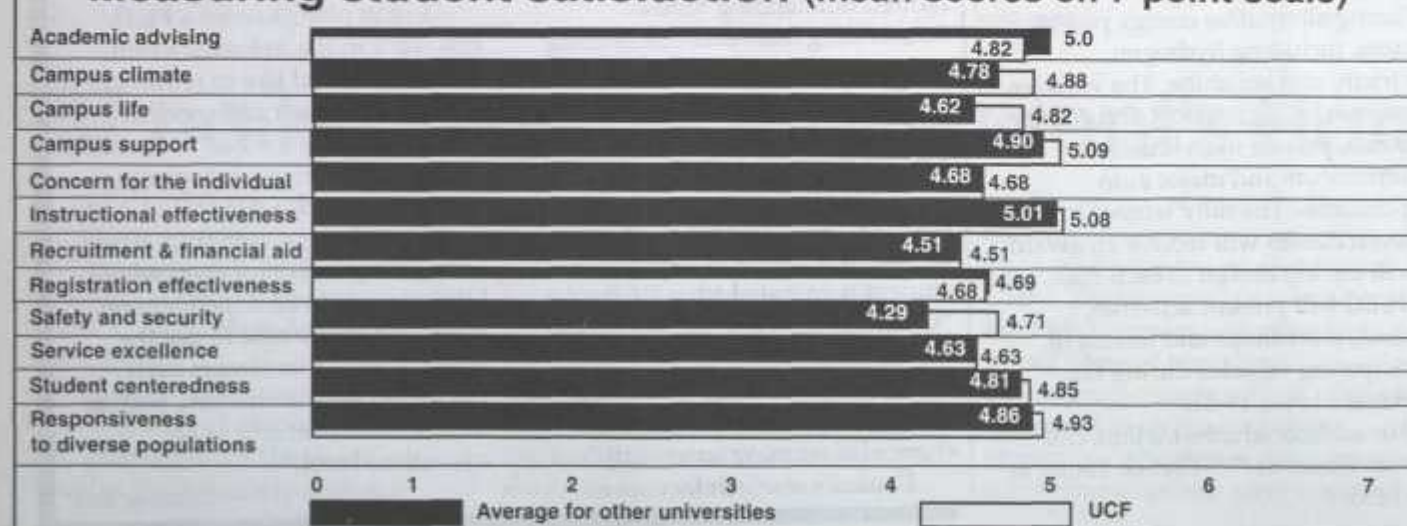
On the more positive side, UCF students are impressed by touch tone phone registration, access to electronic communication and easy-to-read and understand schedule of classes. Geographical location, cost factors and the university's reputation were important to more than 90 percent of those surveyed. More than 80 percent gave UCF a plus when considering available financial aid, campus appearance and the size of the university.

In 11 of 12 categories, UCF students report satisfaction almost equal to or greater than that of students at comparable schools. Perhaps more importantly, since the 1995 survey, the gap between UCF students' expectations and satisfaction in categories including academic advising, campus climate (reputation, caring, etc.), campus life, support services, concern for the individual, instructional effectiveness (course content, faculty quality, etc.), recruitment and financial aid, registration effectiveness, safety and security, service excellence, responsiveness to diverse populations, and student centeredness (overall experience, sense of belonging, etc.) has closed to 1.6 points or less.

The positive tallies, Andrews says, reflect a conscious, administrative effort to do a better job. "From less than three years ago, this is a dramatic improvement. Our target in 1995 was a gap of 2.0. Our goal now is 1.5 or less. We will look at [administrative practices] in depth and just try to close that gap as much as possible."

— Susan Loden

Measuring student satisfaction (mean scores on 7-point scale)





Anthony Felix

They're baaaack

Students flocked to and from the Barnes and Noble UCF Bookstore on the first day of spring classes earlier this month. More than 28,000 students are attending classes this semester.

Still time to help women's athletics

As of mid-January, \$140,000 has been raised in donations for UCF in a statewide campaign to boost women's sports at all 10 public universities.

The state will match private donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$200,000 for each institution. The university has until Jan. 31 to raise the additional \$60,000 needed to receive the full match.

Funds will be used for the women's portion of a new state-of-the-art training facility.

"The support we've already received has been wonderful. We are very optimistic that the community will seize this opportunity and help us reach our goal," says Mary Kaufman, associate athletic director for women's sports.

Contributions can be made via the Golden Knight Club, previously known as the Knight Boosters, at 823-2281 or Kaufman at 823-2190. Donations can also be mailed to: Golden Knight Club, UCF Arena, room 119C, Orlando, 32816-1500.

—Suzanne Ball

UCF cheerleaders ranked No. 3 in nation

UCF's football team failed to crack the nation's Top 25 polls this season, but voters rate the cheerleading squad one of the best.

UCF finished third behind the University of Kentucky and University of Tennessee at the ESPN College Cheerleading National Championships, held earlier this month at Disney MGM Studios. Competing were 119 college teams, 27 of them from Division I-A schools.

Longtime UCF Cheerleaders coach Linda Gooch

credits the "tremendous support" of the many UCF fans who attended the event with helping to motivate her squad. "They were extremely vocal in their support and encouragement of our team," she says.

Going into the event's final round, UCF was ranked No. 1. Two small errors during the final routine dropped the team to third. Nevertheless, of the 1,000 possible points, UCF finished only 7.4 behind No. 1 Kentucky.

The top 10

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Kentucky | 6. Alabama |
| 2. Tennessee | 7. Nebraska |
| 3. UCF | 8. South Carolina |
| 4. Washington | 9. Michigan |
| 5. Louisiana State | 10. North Carolina St. |

Race allows glimpse at future automobiles

Automobiles beyond the next millennium will make a road trip to Florida next month for the SunDay Challenge.

The seventh annual SunDay Challenge road rally is Saturday, Feb. 20. It begins at 11 a.m. at the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC), located at the UCF Brevard campus and finishing at the Walt Disney World Speedway near Orlando. The 70-mile race is sponsored by FSEC, the Florida Energy Office of the Florida Department of Community Affairs, Electronic Data Systems and the Space Coast Clean Cities' Coalition.

The cars will be powered by electricity, natural gas and solar energy. This year's rally will introduce an auto class of electric "Indy-style" cars called Formula Lightning plus new alternative energy vehicle entries. All the vehicles in the rally are powered by energy sources designed to meet environmental and energy needs of the future.

"SunDay Challenge has expanded

its scope this year to provide the public with the first opportunity to view a new vehicle class of electric racing cars, over 40 total rally participants and the latest technological designs for energy-efficient transportation in motion," says FSEC research engineer Bill Young, race chair.

Auto class entries include cars, trucks and motorcycles from around the country designed to use non-polluting alternative energy power sources, including hydrogen, electricity and sunshine. The vehicles were built by high school and college students, private individuals, entrepreneurs and major auto corporations. The rally winner in each of seven classes will receive an award as well as the top design in each class.

FSEC will present activities, exhibits, workshops and testing of participating vehicles during the weekend of Feb. 19-21.

For additional information, call Monica Russo at 773-1349 or Young at 638-1458.

UCF student one of top 25 in North America

Computer science student Christina Dejuan is in good company after being named one of the top 25 students in North America in the Computing Research Association's Outstanding Undergraduate Awards competition.

Dejuan is joined by students from such schools as Princeton, Cornell, Dartmouth and Columbia. In all, 22 students received honorable mention and three others were named outstanding female, outstanding male and outstanding male runner-up.

The competition was sponsored by Microsoft Corp. and Mitsubishi Electric Research Lab.

While other schools had more than one candidate for awards, Dejuan, a senior, was the only student nominated from UCF. "Christina is among the top two to three students [in UCF's Computer Science Department]," says chair Erol Gelenbe. "She had the best chance [of winning an award]."

Dejuan's research focuses on

animation. She detailed her research in a paper submitted for the award.

"Conducting research is a great opportunity, and being recognized for your accomplishments is wonderful," she says. "Being a woman in the computer science field, it's sometimes hard to maintain confidence in your abilities when you're surrounded in a male-dominated field. This award reinforces one's abilities and accomplishments."

Dejuan plans to earn a Ph.D. and work in the industry. Eventually, she would like to return to academia to teach and conduct research.

Her motivation for becoming involved in such a field?

"Everything is computer based. They [computers] are everywhere. I didn't want to be dependent on anyone to know how to use the systems. And I've always been fascinated with animation, both as an entertainment and as an educational tool."

—Suzanne Ball

Employee of the month

Name: Mirjam Jokinen
Title: Senior lab technician
Department: Biology
Job description: Sets up labs for various biology courses; supervises team of students who assist in the preparation of labs; orders equipment and materials; conducts experiments to make sure equipment works properly
Length of Service: Four years
Background: Earned a master's degree in biochemistry in 1970 at the University of Helsinki in Finland; worked for a state research lab while living in Finland
Hobbies: Reading, photography and traveling. "The most interesting and exciting place I've been to is Italy. While studying at the University of Helsinki, I went to Venice, Florence and Rome. It was great."
Quote: "I love my work, and as a result, my whole heart goes into it. My co-workers, supervisors and everyone I work with are wonderful. Also, I love working with the



students. You're constantly getting new ideas. Everyone has been so supportive."
In praise: "When Mirjam first came to the university, it was just the two of us other than the student assistants. One lab tech had resigned and the other was on maternity leave. She virtually had to handle the biology lab preparation herself. She did an admirable job, and has increased the efficiency of the department a great deal. She's an excellent employee. Further, Mirjam has a tremendous amount of work ethic and has great attention to detail. She has truly helped to build the Biology Department into what it is today." — Phil Edwards, lab manager

— Suzanne Ball

MEDIN, continued from page 1

UCF's interim vice president for research, M. J. Soileau.

Medin's new assignment will mark the end of nearly 12 years of IST service that saw the center and its parent university become the academic anchor for the mid-Florida simulation industry, which accounts for about one-fourth of the nation's simulation revenues.

Under Medin's leadership, IST grew from a handful of researchers into a professional staff of some 75 scientists, engineers, instructional technologists and IST-assigned UCF faculty members. A state of Florida resolution declared the institute and UCF to be an essential member of an Orlando-based "Center of Excellence" for the coordinated development of simulation technologies among academic, industry and government partners. UCF also became the first university in the United States to offer a master's degree in simulation.

"Lou's knowledge and vision in building a national and international capability and reputation in simulation for UCF will long be revered," said Soileau. "Indeed, UCF and the simulation industry owe Lou a debt of gratitude for his leadership and key role in the development of the enabling technologies and technical talent underlying the growth that has occurred and will continue to occur locally and nationally."

Medin, who earned a Ph.D. from Ohio State University, came to UCF in May 1987 from the IBM Corp.'s Federal Systems Division in northern

*"... UCF and the
simulation industry
owe Lou a debt
of gratitude for
his leadership ..."*

— M.J. Soileau.

Virginia to run IST. While at IBM in a variety of program management assignments involving high technology, Medin was granted leave by IBM to serve as director of the Environmental and Life Sciences Office of the Secretary of Defense, Office of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering in Washington, D.C. He served there from 1972 to 1974.

UCF will appoint an interim director for IST prior to Medin's February departure. "We intend to recruit a permanent director of the highest caliber who can continue to build UCF's research and education efforts in simulation and training," Soileau said. "It is important for UCF to move quickly so that we do not lose the momentum that has occurred under Lou's leadership."

IST nails down vice president's Hammer Award

Vice President Al Gore's Hammer Award for reinventing government has been presented to UCF's Information Technology Service Center at the Institute for Simulation and Training.

Center program manager Robert Reed and data administrator Tammie McClellan accepted the award on behalf of the university during a

ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 12.

The Hammer Award is presented for partnerships between federal agencies and state, local or private entities that improve government. UCF shares the honor with the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division in Central Florida Research Park.

The award consists of a \$6 hammer, a ribbon and a note from Gore, all encased in an aluminum frame. The hammer is a reminder of the \$400 hammers and other high-priced items of many past government contracts. Gore created the award to recognize federal employees who devise ways to make government operate more responsibly

with better service and less red tape.

The UCF award is for advances in computerized information-sharing services. Working with the Navy, Reed and McClellan designed and maintain an Internet-based system of storing, managing and exchanging data. The system has become the Navy's premier on-line resource for exchange of training technology data.

Welcome

Dennis Congos — coordinator, Instructional Support;
Linda Futch — instructional designer, Course Development and Web Services; **Ulla Isaac** — coordinator, Cooperative Education; **Maribeth Kuenzi** — coordinator, Cooperative Education; **Tiffany Smith** — senior secretary, Cooperative Education; **Todd Thornton** — senior accountant, Institute for Simulation and Training; **Kerry Wilson** — office assistant, Library.

Kudos

Ina Carpenter, executive assistant for Parking Services, was elected the 1999 secretary and treasurer for the Florida Parking Association, a group of 200 parking professionals in the state. Carpenter was elected at the FPA State Convention held at San Marco Island.

John Clark, Parking Services manager, has been appointed the 1999 secretary and treasurer for the University/Alafaya Corridor Transportation Association (UACTA), an organization representing a private/public partnership to support and recommend solutions for traffic, pedestrian and bicycles issues in the Alafaya corridor service area.



Clark

The third edition of accounting professor **Thomas Evans'** "International Accounting and Reporting" (co-authored with **M. Taylor** of the University of Texas and **R. Rolfe** of the University of South Carolina) was published this month by Dame Publications Inc.

Sabrina Gilyard, loan supervisor for Student Financial Assistance, **DeLaine Priest**, assistant director for Quality Initiatives, and **Rebekah McCloud**, director for Minorities in Education Programs, presented "Up the Ladder to the Roof: Preparing Minority Women to Break Through the Glass Ceiling" at the 12th annual International Conference on Women in Higher Education this month in Charleston, S.C.

Edward Hampton, interim director of the LEAD Scholars Program, has received the prestigious Legion of Merit Award for exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service from July 1, 1988 to June 30, 1998. Among his duties was serving as lieutenant colonel for the UCF Army (ROTC) "Fighting Knights." Hampton joined UCF as professor of military science in 1994.

Joe Schofield, senior accountant for the Department of Housing, was an award recipient of the Davis Productivity Awards. He developed a journal for tracking account receivable debits and credits for students who reside in campus housing facilities. His journal significantly reduced collection times and uncollectible accounts within the Housing Department.

Ron Tarr, program manager for education and training at the Institute for Simulation and Training, received his Ph.D. in Educational Research from the College of Education at La Salle University. He completed extensive graduate work at Florida State University beyond the master's degree and then transferred to La Salle, where he completed work and the dissertation.

Katerina Tsaknaki, senior accountant for the Department of Housing, received her CPA license in September.

Lt. Michael Zelanis of the UCF Police Department was elected secretary and treasurer for the Central Florida Chiefs of Police Association, which represents the chiefs of police of Seminole, Osceola and Orange counties. The focus of the CFCPA is to share information and the challenges presented by crime in the next millennium.

CALENDAR

22

Art (Library exhibits through Jan. 31): "Contemporary Latin American Art," by Special Collections; "Martin Luther King Jr.," by Athena Hoepfner; "Feeling Fine in 1999," by Teri Langford; "Theatre-UCF," by Nicolas Rinaldi; "Distinguished Author Series: Margaret Atwood," by Cheryl Mahan; "Florida Pre-history," by Terry Angell. 823-2562

Art (through Feb. 12): "Flying Horse Edition Artists," current works by artists who have collaborated with UCF's in-house art press. Works by Gregory Amenoff, Fred Burton, George Donald, Tony Eitharong, Dorothy Gillespie, Marcus Reese-Roberts, Robert Rivers, Andrew Saftel and William Wiley; curated by Ke Francis, Art Gallery. 823-2676

Theatre (through 24): "To Be Young, Gifted and Black," by Lorraine Hansberry. 823-1500



"Flying Horse Edition Artists," through Feb. 12

25

Sports: Track meet, wiffleball, Recreational Services. 823-2408

26

Event: Career Expo, Arena, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 823-2361
Lectures: Learning Institute for Elders at UCF (LIFE). life-ucf@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu or 249-4778

28

Event: Relay for Life Kick-off breakfast, hosted by President John Hitt, Student Union, Key West Ballroom, 8-9 a.m. RSVP, 823-3901; 823-3802
Sports: Women's basketball vs. Mercer, UCF Arena, 7 p.m. 823-1000

29

Music: Concert featuring Rob Zombie, Arena, 8 p.m. 823-6006

30

Music: ninth annual UCF Clarinet Day, Rehearsal Hall, 12:30-5:30 p.m., \$10. 823-5116
Sports: Women's basketball vs. Troy State, UCF Arena, 7 p.m. 823-1000

February

1

Event: Black History Month kick-off, co-hosted by the African-

A classic baseball treat

A decade of rich tradition will be celebrated at this year's Olive Garden Classic, Friday-Sunday, Jan. 29-31, at Osceola County Stadium in Kissimmee. The 10th annual baseball classic will host UCF, Duke, Rice and South Alabama. The Olive Garden Classic has earned the reputation of being one of the finest preseason baseball tournaments in the country. For information, call Michelle Freeman, 423-2476, x117.



American Student Union, Reflecting Pond, noon-1 p.m. 823-6471

2

Lecture: Women's Studies and The Black Female Development Circle, Bluestocking Luncheon, "Black Women: Where Have We've Been, Where Are We Now, and Where Are We Going?" Student Union, Sand Key room 220, noon-1 p.m. 823-6502

3

Meetings: Toastmasters Club, The Trailblazers, Research Parkway Pavilion Building, 7:30 a.m. 823-3312 or 671-2656
Sports: Racquetball singles; water polo; schick, Recreational Services. 823-2504

4

Sports: Men's basketball vs. Mercer, UCF Arena, 7:30 p.m. 823-1000

6

Sports: Men's basketball vs. Troy State, UCF Arena, 7:30 p.m. 823-1000

7

Music: Faculty Recital — Eladio Scharron, guitar, Rehearsal Hall, 3 p.m.

For a more complete calendar, check out the universitywide listing on the Web (<http://www.ucf.edu/pubrel/>).

January/February

CLASSIFIED

For Sale

Couch w/ queen-size fold-out bed. Gray w/ light-colored flower pattern. Mattress like new! \$100. Michele, 823-5344.

Doghouse, large, 4 ft-by-4 ft, wood w/ metal roof, wood floor, \$25 obo. 823-2501 or 568-7780.

Home, 2/2 in Palm Valley, 55+ community, 3 miles north of UCF off Alafaya Trail. 1,056 sq. ft. (24 ft by 44 ft) move-in condition, \$34,500 obo. 366-0314.

House, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, under beautiful oak trees in a 34-home community in Oviedo w/ 2 tennis courts and

swimming pool. Over 2,600 sq. ft. with an extra large sun room, upgrades and built-ins. Under appraised value, \$148,000. 365-2781.

Miscellaneous, entertainment center, 48 inches high, 49 inches wide, 17 inches deep, \$30, space for 26 inch TV, dark wood color; **Pioneer speakers** (2), 26 inches high, 15 inches wide, 13 inches deep, \$20; **JVC Stereo**, \$30. 209-3812 or 823-5555.

Saab 900SE, 1994, spotless, garaged, 2.5 V6, auto, all power, climate control, ABS TCS, 180 watt sound system with 8 speakers. One owner, nonsmoker, all records, 55K. \$12,500. 657-4397.

Toyota Camry, 1997, like new condition, 24K miles, black with tint. \$17,000. 384-2189.

For Rent

Vacation house in Asheville, N.C. Lovely, newly constructed 3/2 cedar home. View of mountains; 20 min. from Biltmore House/Gardens. Tastefully furnished; 2 fireplaces. Wrap-around decking. Sleeps 6. Available by week or month. 695-4416 or e-mail siebert@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu.

Wanted

Wheels/rims, 14 inch to fit a 1990 Chevy Corsica. Need 2 of the plain iron wheels to replace 2 bent ones. The style has 5 mounting holes and a ring of circles around the center. E-mail humphrie@mail.ucf.edu.

Official Ballot to Spotlight Employee of the Month

I nominate _____

(name)

(campus address)

to be UCF Employee of the Month. (Nominee must have been a University Support Personnel System employee at least two years.) Any employee, including faculty and A&P, may nominate a candidate on the basis of job performance, dependability, attitude, etc. A name submitted remains in the pool of eligible candidates for one year.

Signed: _____

(name)

(campus address, phone)

Cut ballot and return to Human Resources, ADM 230, EOM.
(Mark envelope "confidential.")